

Message Text

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TAGS: OREP - FREEMAN, CONSTANCE

SUBJECT: STAFFDEL FREEMAN

REFS: A) STATE 199802 B) NEW DELHI 12169

MS. FREEMAN VISIT TO INDIA IS BELIEVED TO HAVE BEEN SUCCESSFUL AND ACHIEVED THE PURPOSE FOR WHICH THE TRIP WAS INTENDED. FOLLOWING IS A SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES DURING HER VISIT.

1. MS. FREEMAN HAD DISCUSSIONS WITH EMBASSY OFFICIALS DURING MORNING OF AUGUST 30, INCLUDING A LENGTHY DISCUSSION WITH THE AMBASSADOR. IN THE AFTERNOON SHE MET WITH WORLD BANK OFFICIALS, INCLUDING RESIDENT REP. KRASKE AND FIVE OTHER KEY STAFF ON A WIDE RANGE OF BANK ACTIVITIES IN INDIA. MS. FREEMAN HAD ADEQUATE OPPORTUNITY TO QUESTION IMPACT OF IDA PROGRAMS IN INDIA.

2. A SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS WAS ARRANGED WITH INDIAN OFFICIALS ON AUGUST 31 BY THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE. MS. FREEMAN DISCUSSED IDA ACTIVITIES WITH R.N. MALHOTRA, JOINT SECRETARY. SHE HAD DISCUSSIONS ON POPULATION AND FAMILY PLANNING PROGRAMS, AGRICULTURE, COMMAND AREA PROJECTS AND DROUGHT-PRONE AREA ACTIVITIES THROUGHOUT THE DAY.

3. ON WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, MS. FREEMAN, ACCOMPANIED BY AID AFFAIRS OFFICER ALFRED BISSET, VISITED THE WORLD BANK-FINANCED COMMAND AREA PROJECT IN CHAMBAL DISTRICT, STATE OF MADHYA PRADESH. SHE HAD A DAY OF EXTENSIVE TRAVEL TO VARIOUS PROJECT SITES THROUGHOUT THE NORTHERN SECTION OF THE

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PAGE 02 NEW DE 13204 081726Z

COMMAND AREA AND WAS AFFORDED VIP TREATMENT BY THE

COMMISSIONER AND STAFF OF THE COMMAND AREA PROJECT.

4. MS. FREEMAN CONTINUED ON HER FLIGHT TO BOMBAY
SEPTEMBER 2. THERE SHE HAD MEETINGS IN THE AFTERNOON WITH
THE INDUSTRIAL CREDIT & INVESTMENT CORPORATION OF INDIA,
THE INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT BANK, AND THE AGRICULTURAL
REFINANCE DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION. MS. FREEMAN DEPARTED
BOMBAY LATE THAT NIGHT TO CONTINUE HER PLANNED ITINERARY.

5. COMMENT. MS. FREEMAN DID HER PH.D. THESIS IN THE FIELD
OF FAMILY PLANNING IN INDIA IN 1972. WITH THIS AS A BACKGROUND
SHE CAME WITH A POSITIVE APPRECIATION FOR THE COUNTRY AND THE
PEOPLE. THIS PRESENT TRIP REINFORCED THESE POSITIVE IMPRESSIONS
AND SHE CAN BE CONSIDERED A FRIEND OF INDIAN DEVELOPMENT. WE
BELIEVE SHE HAD ADEQUATE OPPORTUNITY TO EXPLORE AREAS OF
INTEREST RELATING TO WORLD BANK ACTIVITIES IN INDIA. SHE DID
NOT PROVIDE EMBASSY OFFICERS WITH ANY SPECIFIC RESULTS OF
HER TRIP EXCEPT TO STATE THAT THE GOALS SHE HAD SET IN
WASHINGTON WERE ACHIEVED BY HER FIVE-DAY STAY IN INDIA.
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